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6 Sep 87
MJN-8713

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau --August 1987

I. GENERAL

The embassy said goodbye to Ambassador Paul Boeker in mid-month and later in the month began intensive preparations for receiving the new ambassador, Roscoe ("Rocky") Suddarth, early in September. Despite word of a five percent cut in embassy funding for the coming fiscal year, the embassy has responded gallantly by cleaning carpets, hanging pictures, rearranging furniture and lavishly spreading paint on walls badly in need of more general renovation.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

The bureau was able to obtain, in response to an urgent wire request, a copy of the 12 August Kuwait ARAB TIMES interview with Saudi businessman Adnan Khashuqji in which he alleged a U.S. plot to kill Iran's Ayatollah Khomeyni. After a number of telephone conversations with our embassy in Kuwait, a political officer there agreed to fax the item to the Intercontinental Hotel in Amman directly across the street from the embassy. The item was then recovered expeditiously and filed immediate in nine takes.

B. Lateral Services

1. At the request of the embassy's Political Office, the bureau provided the section with filed reports on Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj's visit to Romania and the Israeli decision to go ahead with a well drilling project on the West Bank.

2. The bureau supplied the DCM with several requested items in the course of the month regarding Iraq's public attitude toward the Soviet Union and also at his request kept him up to date with events in the Gulf via telephone alerts.

C. Technical

1. Bureau technicians have completed the transition from Collins receivers to Watkins-Johnson 8718-A receivers in

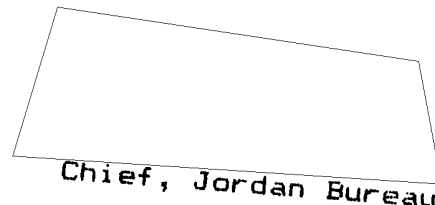
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the Press Intercept Room. Further, extensive modifications will have to be made and more equipment supplied before the new receivers are ready for use in the monitoring area.

2. The old television antenna and rotor on the bureau roof was replaced by a TV Master Antenna system in order to improve TV reception, particularly from Damascus, which used to suffer interference from signals from Riyadh and Jerusalem. The new system employs one Channel-3 screen and one Channel-3 Band Pass Filter to receive Amman's Arabic program; one Channel-7 screen and one Channel-7 Band Pass Filter/Amplifier for reception of Amman's Damascus; one UHF Broad Band screen for reception of the three foreign program; and one Signal Combiner/Amplifier for the three antenna screens. Damascus TV reception has greatly improved.

III. VISITS

New embassy Administrative Counselor Anne Hacket toured the bureau 19 August and was briefed on operations.


Chief, Jordan Bureau

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Attachment:
Production Report